

* (This is page one

The Greater Newark HUD Tenants' Coalition (GNHTC) brings together tenant leaders from privately-owned HUD-assisted apartment complexes in the Newark/Essex County, New Jersey area. GNHTC's goals are to organize residents from the targeted buildings and provide them with the skills that will ensure they have effective input in the decisions which affect the conditions in which they live; and to ensure that GNHTC is aware of, informs its membership and develops organized responses to changes in federal housing policy which threaten to increase rents, deregulate these buildings, and eliminate thousands of affordable housing units. The GNHTC works to prevent involuntary displacement, ensures a controlling voice for the residents in the future of their building and to explore tenant management and/or ownership. For years, GNHTC has led the battle to ensure all buildings are "safe, decent, and sanitary" as required by law.

The HUD Tenants Coalition continues to have three primary program activities which are briefly presented below, along with some accomplishments in each area

Advocacy: GNHTC provides the on-site leadership and support to assist residents strategize, organize, and mobilize in order to change housing policies, local, state and federal, which impact on them;

Technical Assistance: GNHTC provides technical assistance to start and maintain strong individual tenant associations, and to provide training opportunities for tenant leaders and expert assistance as its resources allow; and

Tenant Education & Outreach: GNHTC is constantly developing and carrying out activities to encourage greater participation of unorganized residents.

The GNHTC's carries out a number of tasks including:

- * Assist tenants in forming and maintaining a tenants organization;
- * Provides leadership training and technical assistance;
- * Advocates for tenants;
- * Monitors and affects changes in housing policy at the local, federal and state level;
- * Informs and educates tenants and public about their legal rights; and
- * Builds on our collective power base and transferring skills and networking.